

Message Text

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PASS NSF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAG: TPHY, OSCI, EG
SUBJ: NSF/ SFCP PROPOSAL: "WORKSHOP CONFERENCE ON THE
NON-DESTRUCTIVE EVALUATION TECHNOLOGY"

REF: BARTOCHA/MONGY LETTER (5/22/78)

1. DR. MERVANA MONGY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STANDARDS HAS ASKED SCIATT FOR REASONS HER PROPOSAL WAS REJECTED (REF LETTER). SHE ALSO ASKED IF REJECTION OF THE WORKSHOP WOULD PREJUDICE CONSIDERATION OF HER COMPANION PROJECT ON "NON MEDICAL APPLICATIONS OF ULTRASOUND." DR. MONGY COMMENTED THAT WORKSHOP HAD BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR OVER ONE YEAR, DURING WHICH TIME SHE HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH NSF AND HAS MADE EVERY ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW SUGGESTIONS MADE. SHE FELT ENCOURAGED BY NSF INITIAL RESPONSES. DR. MONGY ALSO SAID THAT HER PROPOSALS "HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE JWGTRD."

2. THE REPORT OF THE FIFTH JWGTRD MEETING IN WASH. NOV. 18-19, 1976 INCLUDES DR. MONGY'S PROPOSALS UNDER THE HEADING "PROJECTS BEING IMPLEMENTED" BENEATH A PARA WHICH STATES IN PART "...PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE JWGTRD SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AS NOTED BELOW."
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3. DR MONGY WAS ADVISED THAT AS FAR AS WE KNOW, REJECTION OF ONE PROPOSAL NEED NOT JEOPARDIZE ANOTHER PENDING. PLEASE ADVISE IF ASSUMPTION TRUE IN THIS CASE SINCE TWO PROPOSALS ARE RELATED. SHE WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT "APPROVAL" EXPRESSED IN THE JWGTRD REPORT REFERRED TO THE APPROPRIATENESS OF HER PROPOSALS AND WAS A POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION

FOR CONSIDERATION, BUT DID NOT BIND NSF TO APPROVAL AFTER CONSIDERATION.

4. REF LETTER LISTS SEVERAL GENERAL FACTORS WHICH, I.A., CAN AFFECT EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS. DR. MONGY FEELS THE INFERENCE IS SHE FAILED TO MEET SOME OF THESE. SHE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHICH ONES AND HOW, PARTLY SO SHE CAN BE BETTER PREPARED IF SHE SHOULD PRESENT OTHER PROPOSALS. IN VIEW OF THE SPECIFIC ENDORSEMENT OF HER PROPOSALS BY THE JWGTRD, THE LENGTH OF TIME THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION AND THE EXCHANGES WITH DR. MONGY, NSF MIGHT WISH TO AMPLIFY REF LETTER, PERHAPS INFORMALLY.

5. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS AGREED AND RECOGNIZED THAT JWGTRD "APPROVAL" IS A RECOMMENDING ENDORSEMENT AND NOT A FUNDING COMMITMENT, IT DOES REPRESENT A JOINT ACTION OF THE USG AND GOE. GIVEN EARLIER GOE MISPERCEPTIONS AND SENSITIVITIES ON THIS POINT, WE FEEL THAT WHERE SO ENDORSED PROJECTS ARE DEFICIENT OR REJECTED, THE REASONS SHOULD BE DETAILED TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE. OTHERWISE, THE JOINT ENDORSEMENT CAN APPEAR TO GOE AS MEANINGLESS OR TO HAVE BEEN ARBITRARILY IGNORED. EILTS

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